A Duplicate

A true NARRATIVE Of the Proceedings at the Seſſions-houſe IN THE OLD-BAYLY,

September 6. 1677.

Setting forth

The Tryal of a man for a Rape; and an Account of ſeveral other notable Tryals, Facts, and Circumſtances.

With the number of thoſe Burnt in the hand, Tranſported, *&c.*

With Permiſſion. *Ro. L'Eſtrange.*

LONDON: Printed for *D. M.* 1677.

RB.23.a.8826

The Proceedings at the Seſsions for *London* and *Middleſex*.

THe firſt perſon that received Trial this Seſſions, was a young Woman for the horrid Crime of Murder, charged to have been unnaturally committed on her own Female baſtard Child, on the 17th of *July* laſt: She had been for ſome time ſuſpected to be with child, but it did not appear any body had burthen'd her therewith. She was delivered alone, and had laid the Child in a Trunk; but being very ſick, a woman (at whoſe houſe ſhe lay) upon ſome ſuſpicion ſent for a Midwife, who declaring that ſhe had had a Child, the now Priſoner at laſt confeſt it, and they found it lockt up in the Trunk as aforeſaid. The Priſoner alleadged it was ſtill-born, and upon view of the Body there did not appear the leaſt mark of wound, bruiſe, or other violence uſed: So that thereupon, and her voluntary Confeſſion, *&c.* the Jury not believing that ſhe had actually murdered the Infant, brought her in *Not guilty*.

A common Thievish Wench, that followes the trade used by too many of them, *viz.* pretend to want Services, and have no sooner got a place, but at the first opportunity they rob their Masters or Mistresses, was Arraigned and found Guilty of stealing 5 *l.* in Money, and a great quantity of laced Linnen, *&c.* from a Gentleman, whom she had lived with but 3 or 4 days, who being above stairs with his Wife and some friends, near 10 of the Clock, she broke open a Closet-door below, took this Money and the Goods, and so leaving all the Doors open, march'd off with the Booty; not being heard of till upon another exploit, she had taken up her quarters in *Newgate*, having but just before she came to this Gentlemans Service, been discharged out of another Goal, where she had been committed for the like practice.

A lusty Man took a long Tryal for a supposed Rape by him committed on a certain woman, who swore positively, that on *Sunday* the 22th of *July* last the Prisoner came ine Forenoon to her Lodging, whilst her Husband was at Church, pretending to pay for something he had formerly had, and (amongst other things) courted her to go abroad over the water with him that Afternoon; who refusing unless her Husband went too, he at last on a sudden flung her on the bed, and there by violence against her consent had his will of her, and left her in a Swoon, *&c.* But it appearing that

that ſhe did not cry out, for which ſhe alledged a pleaſant reaſon, that ſhe could not, or was not able; and being demanded why, anſwered, becauſe he laid his face ſo hard upon hers So that neither a woman that was in another room of the ſame houſe, nor another in the next houſe that could hear any conſiderable noiſe made in this womans Room, heard the leaſt diſturbance. As alſo that the Witneſs dined with her Huſband that day, without complaining of the abuſe, or unuſual diſorder; and the ſame afternoon met the priſoner by accident at a Relations houſe of hers, and never charged him, or took any notice of it; nor acquainted her huſband till next morning. After a ſtrict ſifting of the matter, the Jury thought fit to bring in the priſoner *Not guilty*, to the great ſatisfaction of his friends there preſent; the man having a good repute among his neighbours.

A Gentleman took his Tryal for killing another Gentleman in the *Strand* on the 7th of *July*, and whoſe body was found dead there next day in an Alley. They were wholly ſtrangers to one another; but the party deceaſed being near Twelve a clock at night got into the Alley with his ſword drawn, and ſwearing to run a Maid-ſervant through as ſhe went home, with whom he had not the leaſt pretence of quarrel; She prayed the priſoner, who was alſo a ſtranger to her, to guard her home; who did ſo: but in his return it ſeems a Rencounter happen'd, and the deceaſed was kill'd; but that it was done by

by the priſoner, the greateſt Evidence was, that his Sword agreed with the figure of the wound, and was ſtain'd with bloud juſt as far as that was deep; ſo that the priſoner was convicted of Manſlaughter.

One that had been ſervant to a Gentleman about *Old-ford* in *Middleſex*, was Indicted for ſtealing two Geldings, a Black and a Bay, out of his Maſter's Grounds. But riding with them along the Road in *Hertford* ſhire, an honeſt Warder queſtioning him, and finding cauſe of ſuſpition, ſeized him; who upon Examination before a Juſtice of Peace confeſs'd they were his Maſter's horſes. To whom, upon notice thereof ſent, they were returned, and the priſoner now Convicted.

A Good man had the luck to loſe at once both his Bed and Bed-fellow: and ſome time after, upon ſearch, found the former at a Broker's. He now Indicted a woman (the Broker) for his ſaid bed, and breaking open his houſe. But it rather appearing that ſhe took it in for a Pawn, and that by all circumſtances the Burglary was committed in his own Family, the priſoner was Acquitted.

A woman was burnt in the hand for a Robbery committed by her Two years ago, when coming to a houſe where there was no body left within but an antient poor woman, ſhe pretended to ſend her out of an Errand at ſeveral Streets diſtance, promiſing to give her ſix *pence*, *&c.* but whilſt ſhe was gone, ranſackt the houſe;

houſe, and took away Goods, Apparel, &c. to a conſiderable value.

A Servant-wench Indicted for a Burghlary and robbing her Maſter: It appeared by her own Confeſſion and otherwiſe, that ſhe opened the door in the Night to ſome of her Confederates, that robbed all the lower part of the houſe; and for a colour that ſhe might not be ſuſpected as privy to it, broke down a piece of a Wall backwards; but it happening to rain, their Footſteps were trac'd from the fore-door, and none on the back-ſide at all. Before the Juſtice ſhe confeſſed ſhe let them in, and that it was her father and her brother; but upon enquiry, 'tis found ſhe has no brother, and that her father died ſeveral years ago. At Bar ſhe denied any Confederacy, alleadging that ſhe knew nothing of it, yet was found guilty; and being askt what ſhe had to ſay, why ſentence of Death ſhould not paſs againſt her according to Law, prayed Tranſportation. The Court promiſed her mercy, if ſhe would diſcover who the felons were; but ſhe refuſed, alleadging ſhe could not, being then in bed aſleep.

A Man married about 10 years ago to a Woman in the Country, having about 3 year ſince married another at *Aldgate* (the firſt being ſtill living) was for the ſame Arraigned: His firſt Wives Siſter proved the firſt Marriage, and that they lived together

and

and had two Children. The ſecond Wives Father and Mother proved their Daughters Marriage to him, and that he had a Portion, which was conſumed, *&c.* He had little to ſay for himſelf, but being found Guilty, craved the benefit of his Clergy, and by ſpecial Order hath Squire *Ketches* Arms very fairly engraven in his Hand.

There was great expectation of another Trial, but the ſame was put off till next Seſſions.

There were two Women and two Men Burnt in the Hand, and three that begged Tranſportation. And ſo concluded a Maiden Seſſions.

FINIS.